

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 117

February 14, 2017

SUMMARY OF BILL: Enacts the “Help Find the Missing Act” (the Act) to establish procedures throughout law enforcement agencies and medical examiners/coroners to assist in identifying missing persons.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures – \$4,900/One-Time
\$65,800/Recurring**

Assumptions:

- The proposed legislation requires every county medical examiner and coroner to promptly furnish the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) and the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System within the United States Department of Justice with copies of fingerprints and other identifying data for all unidentified deceased persons inquired by the medical examiner/coroner.
- If fingerprints cannot be obtained from the body, then a dentist or dental student shall perform a dental exam, the results of which are to be forwarded to the TBI.
- TBI must compare the fingerprints or other descriptive data to information kept on file with the TBI to attempt to identify the deceased. TBI must erase all records with respect to such person after the person is found.
- The Department of Health, Office of the State Chief Medical Examiner, reports that no data exists on the number of unidentified deceased individuals.
- County medical examiners/coroners often collect identifying information, including fingerprints, dental records, etc., to assist law enforcement in identifying deceased individuals. It is assumed that the proposed legislation will not significantly impact county medical examiners/coroners.
- It is assumed that the TBI’s caseload will increase because of the proposed legislation. It is assumed that the TBI will need an intelligence analyst to handle the increased caseload.
- The starting salary for an intelligence analyst is \$43,200. An intelligence analyst position requires \$65,768 [$\$43,200 + (\$43,200 \times 0.0969)$ benefits + $(\$43,200 \times 0.0765)$ FICA + \$6,926.76 insurance + \$8,150 for supplies, professional services, communications, and utilities] in recurring expenditures. An intelligence analyst will also require \$4,900 in one-time expenditures for supplies.

- The proposed legislation also requires all law enforcement agencies, state and local, to erase all records pertaining to any missing person that is found and to report the discovery of such person to the TBI.
- It is assumed that state and local law enforcement agencies can destroy records and notify the TBI within their existing resources.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/trm